

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:EGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SRI CONFERENCE ON SIBERIA

1. DR. WELDON GIBSON, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SRI), INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT (EUR/SOV) ON FEBRUARY 2 THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY THE SOVIET CONSUL GENERAL IN SAN FRANCISCO (ZINCHUK) ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SRI'S CO-SPONSERING A CONFERENCE ON SIBERIAN RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC INTERCHANGE BETWEEN THE WEST COAST OF THE US AND THE SOVIET FAR EAST.

2. SO FAR, THIS IS NO MORE THAN AN INFORMAL PROPOSAL, BUT ZINCHUK SAID THAT A NUMBER OF SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS WERE INTERESTED (ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, SCST, IMEMO, USA INSTITUTE AND THREE OR FOUR MINISTERS). THE CONFERENCE COULD TAKE PLACE IN 1979, PERHAPS IN IRKUTSK. MOST OF THE US PARTICIPANTS WOULD COME FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

3. WE TOLD GIBSON THAT OUR REACTION TO THE IDEA WAS
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POSITIVE. HE SAID HE WOULD KEEP IN TOUCH IF IT MATERIALIZES. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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